

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7228

BILL NUMBER: SB 500

NOTE PREPARED: Feb 17, 2011

BILL AMENDED: Feb 14, 2011

SUBJECT: Massage Therapists.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Landske

FIRST SPONSOR: Rep. Frizzell

BILL STATUS: As Passed Senate

FUNDS AFFECTED: ☒ **GENERAL**
☐ **DEDICATED**
☐ **FEDERAL**

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: (Amended) *Licensure of Massage Therapists*- The bill provides that an individual must be licensed by the State Board of Massage Therapy (BOMT) to engage in the practice of massage therapy. (Under current law, massage therapists are certified by the BOMT but certification is not required for the practice of massage therapy.)

Prohibition- The bill prohibits local units of government from establishing or maintaining licensing requirements for massage therapy.

Scope of Practice and Conforming Changes- The bill provides that the massage therapy licensing requirements do not apply to a health care provider who is acting within the scope of the health care provider's license, registration, or certificate. The bill makes conforming changes.

Effective Date: July 1, 2011.

Explanation of State Expenditures: (Revised) *Licensure of Massage Therapists*- Switching from certification to licensure would have a negligible administrative and expenditure impact to the Professional Licensing Agency (PLA). The bill would grandfather massage therapists with valid certifications on June 30, 2011. There would be no need for those individuals to reapply for licensure, which would save the PLA administrative time from reprocessing applications of existing certifications. Additionally, there would be expenditure savings, if the PLA did not have to produce new licensure pocket cards to replace existing certification cards.

Background Information- As of September 2010, there were 3,740 certified massage therapists.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: *Prohibition*- Local units of government currently licensing massage therapists would see a reduction in administrative time devoted to processing licenses.

Explanation of Local Revenues: *Prohibition*- For localities currently licensing massage therapists, the bill's prohibition would stop the collection of fees, thereby reducing local revenues.

State Agencies Affected: Professional Licensing Agency.

Local Agencies Affected: Political subdivisions currently licensing message therapists.

Information Sources: Marty Allain, General Counsel, Professional Licensing Agency.

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